

FEB 1952 047444

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

CLASSIFICATION

~~SECRET~~

SECURITY INFORMATION

25X1A

INFORMATION REPORT

REPORT NO.

CD NO.

COUNTRY China

DO NOT CIRCULATE

DATE DISTR.

15 March 1952

SUBJECT Organization and History of the United Front
 Department of the Chinese Communist Party

NO. OF PAGES

DATE OF INFO.

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

PLACE
ACQUIRED

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1X

Organization

1. The Chinese Communist Party United Front Department (UFD) functions under the Secretariat of the Party Politburo and is directed by LI Wei-han (李維漢),¹ with CH' I Yen-ming (齊燕銘)² and HSING Hsi-p'ing (邢西萍)¹ as deputy-directors. One of its main tasks at present is to hold the non-Communist parties and cliques close to the Communist Party. Its organization is partially overt and partially covert. Only a small number of responsible persons of the UFD have made open contact with the various parties and cliques, but many workers have infiltrated secretly into those organizations as well as into different strata of Chinese society.
2. The general organizational structure and main personnel of the UFD on the central level are as follows:
 - a. First Bureau: This bureau, headed by CHOU Tzu-chien (周子健), is a secretariat responsible for managing the secretarial duties of the Department, for communications and contacts, general affairs, and the receipt and payment of funds. It has three sub-divisions:
 - (1) Confidential Division, under TSOU Ch'un (鄒羣)
 - (2) Communications
 - (3) General Affairs
 - b. Second Bureau: This is an investigation and research bureau with the responsibility of investigating the various democratic parties and cliques and the general conditions of united front service throughout China. In addition its functions now cover the activities of overseas

CONFIDENTIAL

SECRET

CLASSIFICATION

Document No.

No Change in Class. ☐

25X1

☐ **Reclassified**

STATE #	X	NAVY #	X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION				DATE	BY	REMARKS
ARMY #	X	AIR #	X	FBI					25 SEP 1978		

05 SEP 1976

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

25X1A

-2-

Chinese³ and the investigation of personnel⁴ of foreign countries including their political background, thoughts and activities. The ultimate goal of all these investigations is to compile statistics and prepare analyses for reference in formulating united front policies. As some of the Bureau's duties are similar to those of the Social Affairs Department, the two organs have close relations. They exchange information, and in a number of localities their personnel have become practically identical. Essentially, however, they are separate entities. The Second Bureau's sub-divisions are:

- (1) Investigation
 - (2) Statistics
 - (3) Research
- c. The Third Bureau: Headed by SHEN Po-shun (申伯純), the Third Bureau is also known as the Public Relations Bureau⁵. It has liaison duties and is in charge of matters relating to the personnel of various parties and cliques, including the welcoming of elements absorbed into the UFD. Its sub-divisions are the following:
- (1) Personnel, under HUANG Jen (黃仁)
 - (2) Communications, under CHU Yu-hsueh (朱又學)
 - (3) Guest House
- d. First Office:⁶ This office has the supervision of cultural, educational and religious bodies throughout China. The chief's name is unknown⁷, but the deputy is HO Cheng-hsiang (何成湘). The sub-divisions are:
- (1) Culture and Education
 - (2) Religious Affairs
 - (3) Propaganda
- e. Second Office:⁶ This unit is directed by LIANG Hua (梁華) and is responsible for controlling certain parties and cliques, non-partisan democratic personages, and industrial and commercial bodies.
- f. Third Office:⁶ The particular responsibilities of this office are the affairs of overseas Chinese and the consolidation of different minority racial groups. LIEN Kuan (連貫) is chief, and his deputy is HSU Ching-ch'eng (許敬城). There are four sub-divisions:
- (1) Minority Racial Groups
 - (2) Asia Division
 - (3) American Division
 - (4) Western Europe Division
- g. Fourth Office:⁶ The Fourth Office is in charge of matters relating to winning over and giving support to Asian countries. Its area sub-divisions are the following:
- (1) Korea
 - (2) Japan

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

25X1A

-3-

- (3) Vietnam
 - (4) Burma
 - (5) Thailand
 - (6) Malaya
 - (7) Indonesia
 - (8) India
 - (9) The Philippines
- h. Personnel Training Class: This organ trains personnel for the UFD, including overseas workers, investigation personnel, and United Front regional and minority racial group cadre personnel. The deputy-chief is HSIEN Sheng (謝生).
3. The organization of the UFD on the area level follows much the same pattern as that on the central with a united front department in each area functioning under the supervision of the politburo in the area concerned and upon directives from the Central Department.
- a. The organization of these departments is as follows:
 - (1) Secretariat, which is sub-divided into the Confidential, Telecommunications, and General Affairs divisions.
 - (2) Liaison Bureau, sub-divided into Personnel, Communications, and Reception divisions.
 - (3) Investigation and Research, sub-divided into Investigation, Statistics, and Research.
 - (4) Another bureau, with three divisions: Minority Racial Groups, Overseas Chinese Affairs, and a division overseeing political, religious and cultural bodies of the people.
 - b. The present directors of the united front departments in the several area politburos are:
 - (1) East China Bureau: WU K'o-chien (吳克堅)
 - (2) Central and South China Bureau: CHANG Chih-i (張執一)
 - (3) Northeast China Bureau: SU Yu-wen (粟又文)
 - (4) Southwest China Bureau: WANG Wei-chou (王維舟)
 - (5) Northwest China Bureau: WANG Feng (汪峯)
 - (6) South China Sub-Bureau:⁸ JAO Chang-feng (饒彰鳳)
4. On the provincial, regional,⁹ and hsien (district) levels, united front departments also have been set up. Each functions under the jurisdiction of its Communist Party provincial, regional or hsien committee and is organized into six divisions: Confidential, Liaison, Investigation and Research, Local Service, Overseas Chinese Affairs, and Minority Racial Groups.¹⁰
5. In 1951, with a view to further controlling the parties and cliques which had taken part in the united front, the Communists decided that the post of secretary-general in governmental organizations of various levels, with a few special exceptions, were to be held concurrently by directors of the Party's united front

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

25X1A

-4-

departments of the same level. This would provide a closer means of contact between Communists and non-Communists in government service. In addition, racial groups' affairs committees on different levels of government were to be headed by united front directors on the same level. For example, United Front Department Director LI Wei-han is now secretary-general of the National Committee of the People's Political Consultative Conference (PPCC); secretary-general of the Government Administration Council; and chairman of the central Racial Groups' Affairs Committee. Deputy Director HSING Hsi-ping is also first deputy secretary-general of the PPCC. CH'I Yen-ming, in addition to his deputy directorship holds the post of secretary-general of the Government Administration Council.

6. The UFD directors in the area politburos also hold other concurrent posts. WU K'o-chien is secretary-general of the East China Military and Administrative Committee, while CHANG Chih-i is secretary-general of the Central and South China Military and Administrative Committee. SU Yu-wen is secretary-general of the Northeast Government. WANG Feng holds the chairmanship of the Racial Groups' Affairs Committee, Northwest China Military and Administrative Committee, and WANG Wei-chou is chairman of the Racial Groups' Affairs Committee of the Southwest China Military and Administrative Committee.

History

7. The origins of the present Chinese Communist United Front Department date back to a November 1935 meeting of the Party Politburo, held at Wangyaopao in northern Shensi. During the meeting criticisms were leveled at the widely held view within the Party that the Chinese Nationalist capitalist class could not possibly join Chinese workers and peasants in the fight against the Japanese. It was also pointed out that the set-back suffered by the Party and the Red Army during the second internal revolutionary strife¹² had been the result of such a narrow-minded and closed-door policy within the Party itself. Therefore, it was decided at this meeting to establish a Racial Groups' United Front (民族統一戰線).
8. On 27 December 1935, MAO Tse-tung wrote an article analyzing the possibility and importance of establishing a Party united front. Section II of that article stated that the "present duty of the Party is to coordinate Red Army activities of the workers, peasants, students, the fairly well-to-do class and the national capitalist class into one united front of national revolution throughout the nation." In Section III he advocated that, with the establishment of a united front, the Workers and Peasants Democratic Central Government which had been set-up by the Party should be renamed the People's Republic.¹³
9. In 1936 the Communists began their united front drive under the direction of CHOU En-lai, and using the slogan of an anti-Japanese front they sought to win the allegiance of all parties and cliques and all opposition elements within the Kuomintang (KMT). In May of that year, the Communists placed a request before the Nationalist Government, asking for an end to the internal war. In August the CCP central authorities asked the KMT to establish a bi-party anti-Japanese united front and to stop their attacks against Communist troops. The Sian incident followed, as a result of which the KMT was forced to accept the Communist requests.
10. In July 1937, with the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War, the Communist Party finally secured public recognition. It opened offices in Nanking, Wuhan, Chungking and various other places, and a united front organization was formed in each office. The slogans of the united front at that time were firm advocacy of the War, of united efforts, and of democracy as opposed to dictatorship. Under these slogans the Communists were able to win the support of certain democratic parties, cliques and people's bodies and to gradually strengthen their own position, while weakening that of the Nationalists.

SECRET

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

25X1A

SECRET

-5-

11. In 1945, after the Japanese surrender and the failure of the KMT-Communist peace talks, the Communists renewed their slogan of a People's Democratic United Front. Their policy was to win over to the united front all those elements of the population who opposed the Nationalist regime and to intensify the split between the KMT central and regional authorities. With the assistance of various democratic parties, cliques and other anti-KMT groups¹⁴ the Communists were able to extend their control over different strata of Chinese society, including certain professional groups, workers, merchants, students, cultural and economic organizations, and part of the overseas Chinese. During this same period a united front department was officially established within the Communist Party. It was nominally headed by LI Wei-han (李維漢), but actually directed by CHOU En-lai.
 12. While continuing to strengthen its basis of support at home, the Chinese Communist Party has more recently broadened its policy to include other Asian peoples, under the slogan of an Asian peoples' anti-imperialist liberation united front movement. In conjunction with other organs of the Party, the United Front Department is now striving to win the friendship of non-Communist Asian powers and is aiding native Communist parties in their efforts to gain political power, all with the aim of making Communist China the center of leadership for Asia.
- 25X1A 1. [redacted]
 - 25X1A 2. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] which also deals with the organization and history of the United Front Department, reported CH'I Yen-ming as secretary-general of the department, but the terminology may have been confused with the concurrent post he holds as assistant secretary-general of the Government Administration Council.
 - 25X1A 3. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] the UFD has been entrusted with the task of controlling overseas Chinese by the establishment of Overseas Chinese Democratic Federations.
 - 25X1A 4. [redacted] Comment. This applies mainly to government personnel.
 - 25X1A 5. [redacted] Comment. This is the first report identifying the head of the Third Bureau and the first stating that this bureau and the Public Relations Bureau are the same organ.
 - 25X1A 6. [redacted] Comment. The administrative relationship of these four offices to the bureaus is not clear. [redacted] placed them all under the Third Bureau.
 - 25X1A 7. [redacted] Comment. Possibly HU Chiao-mu as suggested [redacted]
 - 25X1A 8. [redacted] Comment. [redacted] describes the organization and personnel of this bureau.
 - 25X1A 9. [redacted] Comment. Possibly divisions of some of the provinces, such as North and South Kiangsu and North, South, East, West Szechuan.
 - 25X1A 10. [redacted] Comment. As information is incomplete, the names of personnel of the united front organizations in the various provinces, areas, and districts have not been included in this report.
 - 25X1A 11. [redacted] Comment. Probably the same organization translated in other reports as Minority Affairs Committee or Commission of Affairs of Nationalities.
 - 25X1A 12. [redacted] Comment. This refers to the Nanchang uprising which began in August 1927
 - 25X1A 13. [redacted] Comment. The term People's Republic of China, which the Peiping authorities are using at present, was selected on the basis of MAO's advocacy in this article.

SECRET

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

~~SECRET~~

25X1A

-6-

25X1A

25X1A

 Comment. a report of a policy meeting,
held by the Department in Peiping during November 1951, in which these
democratic parties and groups took part.

~~SECRET~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~